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§4-316.

- (a) Subject to the initial approval of the Secretary, the appropriate purchasing unit for the following entities may use the services of the Department to purchase materials, supplies, and equipment:
 - (1) a county;
 - (2) a municipality;
 - (3) a governmental unit in the State;
 - (4) a public or quasi-public agency that:
 - (i) receives State money; and
- (ii) is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
 - (5) a private elementary or secondary school that:
- (i) either has been issued a certificate of approval from the State Board of Education or is accredited by the Association of Independent Schools; and
- (ii) is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; or
- (6) a nonpublic institution of higher education as provided under § 17–106 of the Education Article.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a)(5) and (6) of this section, the Department may not purchase religious materials on behalf of a private elementary or secondary school or a nonpublic institution of higher education.
- (c) The purchasing authority under this section is in addition to, and not a substitution for, the purchasing power of an entity under another law.

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